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BREEZE HILL NEWS

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BREEZE HILL AND THE MOUNT PLEASANT PRESS

BREEZE HILL and Hardy Climbing Roses are most intimately associated. The 1937 Finding-List (a copy to anyone on request) carries the location of 211 of these roses, including 53 yet unnamed hybrids or seedlings growing here on test.

There is an almost un-tilled field of garden, park, roadside and nursery advantage in these easily grown and easily sold adjuncts to the beauty due to broad America.

The Mount Pleasant Press combination of garden and print-shop affords probably the best arrangement for knowing, growing, and selling good plant material available anywhere. Touching possibilities in seeds, plants, trees, shrubs, Breeze Hill begins. There follows the bloom-study, the perfect photograph, the accurate color record.

The selling service is at hand, be it catalogue, book, folder or special offering. Capable, experienced writing or revising service is available, preceding the complete mechanical attention which brings through an effective result. From seed or plant to finished sales service operates this unique association. It is not competitive, in the ordinary sense. Yet, almost always, actual economy in relation to eventual sales or promotion is the result.

Address all communications to the J. Horace McFarland Company, Harrisburg, Pa.



The Climbing Roses at Breeze Hill

1937

THANKS to the first mild winter in some years, the Climbing Roses at Breeze Hill were in condition to make a showing this season, and the performance was very satisfactory.

THE YELLOW CLIMBING ROSES

The important Le Rêve was the first yellow to open (May 24), and the three-inch flowers with their dozen clear yellow petals lasted for a long time. Our plants have several ten-foot canes each, and they were well covered with yellow bloom which stays yellow longer than most of the varieties of that color. Le Rêve used to be compared with Star of Persia, but the latter is such an erratic bloomer that it is not worth bothering with, although its few flowers do have good color.

Horvath's Setigera hybrid, Doubloons (May 31), again proved itself to be a top-notch rose. Its ten-foot canes carried fifteen-inch laterals, each bearing clusters of three to ten four-inch flowers of creamy buff which aged light cream. The twenty-five petals surround an attractive mass of old-gold stamens, and the flowers have a pleasing, spicy fragrance. As the flowers open only one or two at a time, one is not tempted to cut them as would be the case if the entire spray broke at once.

We had our first chance at Breeze Hill to study Easlea's Golden Rambler (June 1). It is a fine rose, although really a Pillar, or modest Climber instead of a Rambler. The color is very similar to that of Doubloons, except that it has a faint pinkish tint. The flowers are nearly four inches in diameter, have a pleasing stamen mass, surrounded by about thirty petals. Eight-inch stems carry from one to three flowers each, and the bloom covers the plant from near

the base to the top of the eight-foot canes. It has a honey-like fragrance. The foliage is attractive.

Seldom seen nowadays, but one of the most likable of the yellows, is the Multiflora hybrid, *Ghislaine de Feligonde*, with rich yellow buds, opening to pale buff flowers with just a tint of pink on the edges. Its great clusters soon turn almost white in the sun, though they last well in cloudy weather.

The grand thing about it is that flowers come again on the new growth during the summer.

Goldener Traum (May 27), in the catalogues as *Golden Dream*, has interesting flowers of soft chamois-yellow, very similar in appearance to those of *Doublons* and *Easlea's Golden Rambler*. Just as soon as the faded petals have dropped, sublaterals break from the first eye below the previous flower, and in three to four weeks these are bearing flowers. This is supposed to continue all season, but, as this is written in late June, we will have to take the introducer's word for it. Our plant, which suffered during the previous cold winters, is now but thirty inches tall, but as we have seen some fairly good plants elsewhere, we are hoping that it will go on up its post again.

Primrose (June 7) is one of the necessary roses. It has two-and-three-fourth-inch flowers of soft creamy primrose, so double that the center is hidden, the outer petals being just enough reflexed to give the flower a slight pompon look. It has honey-like fragrance. Ten-foot canes with attractive shiny *Wichuriana* foliage carry flowers from base to tips in clusters of two or three on six-inch stems. *Primrose*, we repeat, is a necessity.

Practically out of commerce now, *Electra* (June 10) is a dependable rose with fragrant, chamois-colored flowers aging to pale lemon. It is of good form, three inches across, its twenty-five petals being ample for a lasting bloom. The plant is of the Rambler type, and has good foliage. It froze back badly during the cold winters, but stands an ordinary cold season, and grows strongly.

Albéric Barbier, *Aviateur Blériot* and *Gardenia* are splendid varieties with flowers of quite similar coloring.

THE TWO-COLOR CLIMBERS

In the popular cousins of the yellows, the bicolors, there were several that did more than merely attract attention. One of the daintiest of all is Phyllis Bide (June 5), which makes a bushy pillar some six feet tall, continuing to show a few flowers all season. The blooms are two inches across, rich apricot at first, changing to creamy white as they mature, and are delightfully informal in appearance. Grown



EASLEA'S GOLDEN RAMBLER

as a pillar or fanned against a fence, Phyllis Bide is very pleasing and should be better known, for its refinement.

We have two plants of Climbing Talisman, both of which froze down during the severe winters. One is now only three feet tall, while the other recovered, put up five ten-foot canes last year, which at the first bloom (May 28) carried flowers from within two feet of the base right up to the tips. A count showed over sixty flowers open at one time on June 3, and there are flowers maturing as these words are written in mid-July.

Climbing Los Angeles was also a beautiful picture early in June, with three ten-foot canes carrying forty open flowers on June 5. The blooms were larger and of better color than we have ever been able to get on a dwarf plant. Anyone liking the flowers of Los Angeles should try the climbing sport for a real thrill.

Stevens' Rugosa hybrid, Vanguard (May 30), is a grand climber which deserves wide distribution. It is a strong grower with thick, thorny canes and heavy, shiny, rugose foliage. Our plant spread over a pipe-and-wire support about ten feet square, completely hiding the support, and, in early June, carried literally hundreds of its large, double, fragrant peach-colored flowers. It is hardier than most.

Coralie (June 1) is a beautiful rose three and one-half inches across, of soft coral-pink, the lower third of the petals light yellow. It has about twenty-five petals and a spicy fragrance. The plant puts out numerous thorny canes from the base and has pleasingly small foliage, producing its bloom singly and in two's and three's on six-inch stems.

Vicomtesse Pierre du Fou (June 1) is a Hybrid China which produces a few flowers throughout the season. Not particularly hardy, it is enough so to make a good pillar. The coppery pink flowers have about forty petals, and are produced singly on ten- to twelve-inch stems.

THE WHITE CLIMBERS

At Breeze Hill we think that Pemberton's lovely Chastity (June 1) is just about the top white climber. It has loose,

three-and-a-half-inch, pure white flowers with splendid centers of golden stamens, and emits a mild but pleasing fragrance. Our plant came through the bad winters with very little damage, and has several one-inch, thorny canes twelve feet long, carrying good-looking healthy foliage. The flowers are in clusters of two or three on eight-inch stems.

Our old Pennsylvania friend, Purity, is almost a duplicate of Chastity but for its fiercely thorny canes. It is a grand midseason rose.

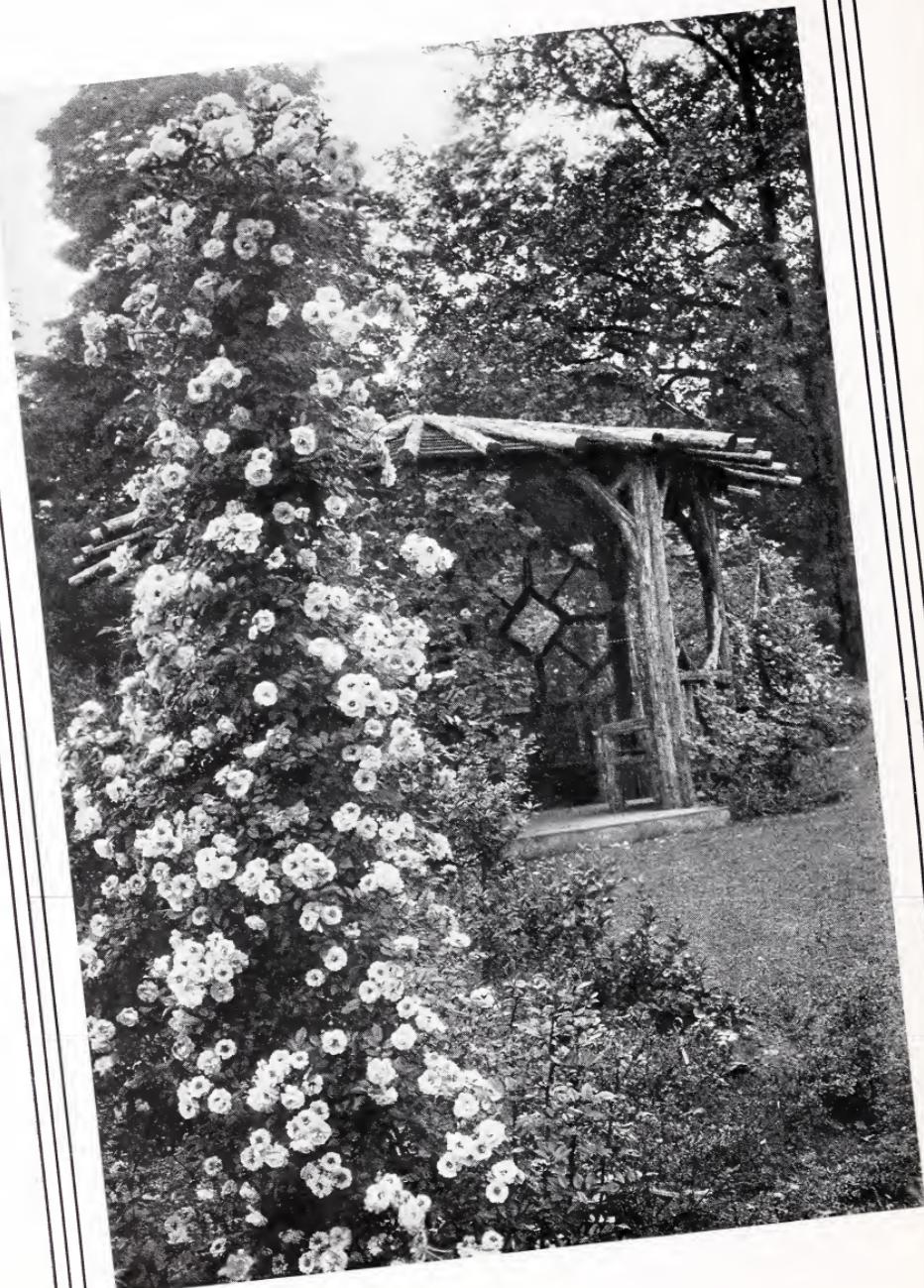
Glenn Dale (June 1) is one of Dr. Van Fleet's best roses. It is quite hardy, makes twelve- to fifteen-foot canes, has attractive foliage, and is a free bloomer with shapely lemon buds, opening to creamy white flowers which show a nice center of golden stamens; it has about forty petals.

Considered by many rosarians to be the most perfect of all white roses is Paul's Lemon Pillar (June 5). Although a climbing Hybrid Tea, it has proved as hardy as most of the climbers at Breeze Hill, and now has five ten-foot canes carrying a liberal quantity of four-inch lemon-white flowers of splendid form; they come singly and in clusters of three or four on ten-inch stems at the top of the plant. It is a superb exhibition flower.

Of course, we must not forget White Dorothy (June 15), the white sport of Dorothy Perkins, with plant and flower (except for color) the same as its parent. It is a Rambler, easy to grow, free-blooming, and quite reliably hardy. Further, it blooms late, when needed.

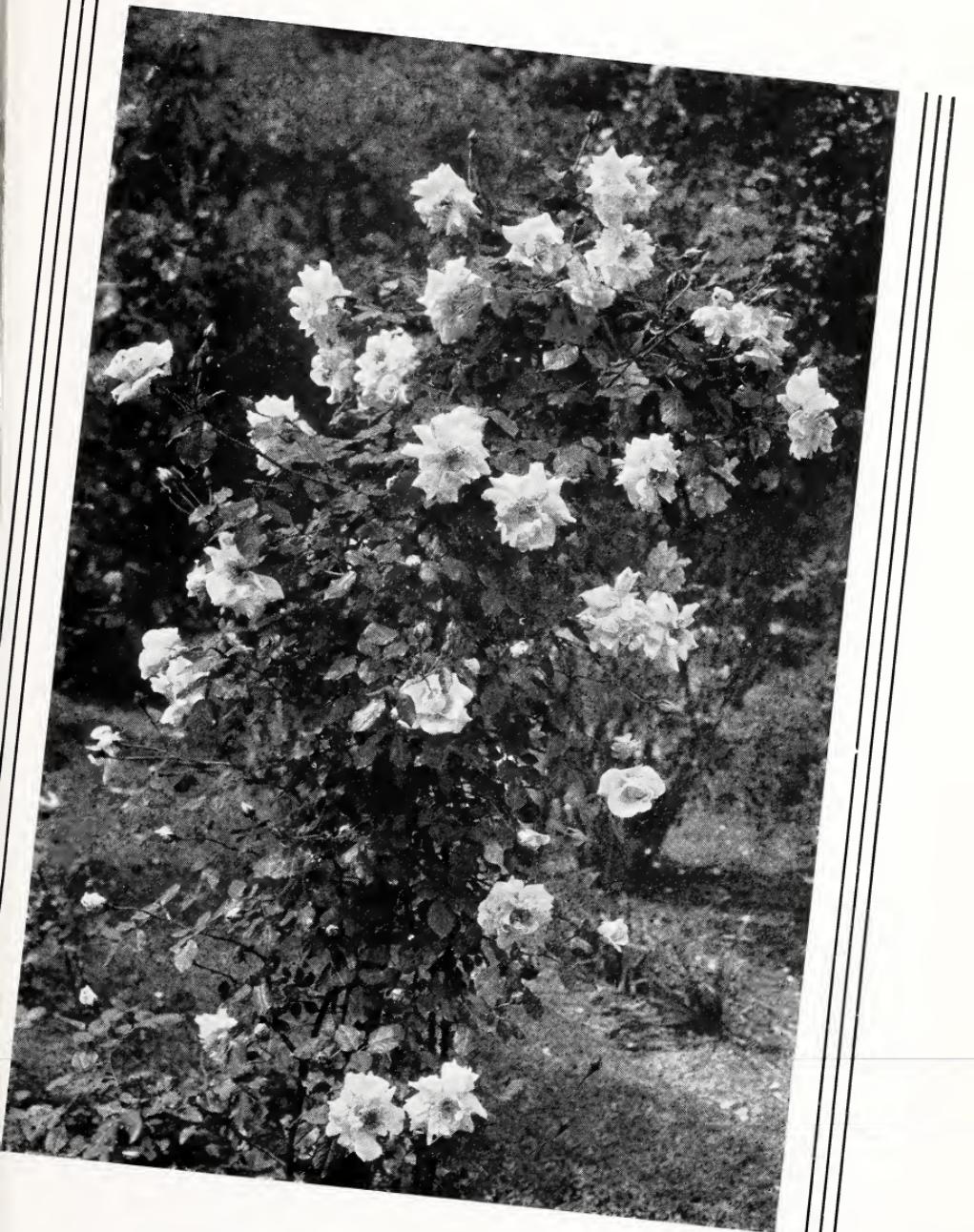
THE PINK VARIETIES

Just as in the dwarf varieties, there are pink climbers galore, but a few of them are so good they belong in Everyman's garden. One of the most desirable of all is the Bourbon, Zephirine Drouhin (June 1). The plants make eight- to ten-foot canes with ordinary care. These reddish canes are thornless, and, clothed with attractive bronzy tinted foliage, they produce over a long season quantities of deliciously fragrant, satiny pink flowers on six- to eight-inch stems. The blooms fade agreeably and drop cleanly.



Ghislaine de Feligonde . . .

An overlooked Multiflora hybrid with near-yellow flowers that tends to bloom again on the season's new growth.



Chastity....

England gave us this pure white rose more than a dozen years ago. Why did we let it go to sleep?

Pedro Dot certainly gave hybridizers something to shoot at when he produced Mme. Grégoire Staechelin. This climbing Hybrid Perpetual stands ordinary winters in this locality, and early in June is a burst of glory, with its clusters of great four-inch, fragrant, cupped flowers of satiny shell-pink, stained with carmine. Each bloom has seventeen or eighteen large petals, and, if allowed to develop, the flowers will be followed by seed-pods an inch in diameter. It has thorny, ten-foot canes and very large, dark green foliage.

One of the best of the pinks is Pennsylvania's own Christine Wright (June 1)—a sister to Purity—which is very liberal in June and blooms again in late fall. Three-inch, nearly flat, fragrant flowers of a lovely pink are produced singly and in clusters of two and three on good cutting stems, and having some thirty petals, they last well. Ten-foot thorny canes and medium-sized, clean foliage make the plant.

One of the hardest climbers at Breeze Hill is Chaplin's Pink Climber (June 1), with numerous strong, thorny canes and healthy, light green foliage, almost hidden the first week in June under masses of two-and-one-half-inch flat flowers of deep pink, each with fifteen petals and but little scent.

Another variety of extra hardiness is the forgotten Marietta Silva Tarouca (June 1). Our plant, several years old, has never suffered winter damage, and its twelve-foot canes produce, every year, a crop of two-inch semi-double flowers of deep pink edged with silver, the lower part of the petals white. It should be put back into commerce.

Although the Australian climbers are practically all good, there are several that are outstanding. Kitty Kininmonth (May 30) is a very vigorous grower, making twelve-foot canes here, liberally decorated with four-inch flowers of an unusually brilliant shade of pink. The loosely formed and fragrant blooms have twenty or more petals, and are produced from the ground up on six- to eight-inch stems. Kitty K suffered during the winter of 1935-36, but came back strong last year.

Outstandingly fine is Daydream (June 1) with four-and-one-half-inch flat flowers of shell-pink, lighter in the center; it has fifteen petals and is fragrant. Blooming in clusters of

three to six on fifteen-inch stems, from the ground up, our plants were gorgeous spectacles the first week in June. While it has been considered tender in some localities, Daydream has been perfectly hardy here, and each plant has several ten-foot canes.

A fine eight-foot pillar is Nora Cunningham (May 31) with four-inch flat pink flowers in quantity. It repeats slightly during the season and should consequently please the "ever-bloomer" fans.

Dr. W. Van Fleet's three-inch flowers with thirty petals of pale flesh-pink (June 3) are just double enough to make a perfect display, especially as it is such a strong grower that when given an opportunity and not restrained by unnecessary pruning, it will spread high and wide (our plant completely covers the side of a two-car garage) and will almost hide the foliage with its dainty bloom. The fragrant, long-stemmed flowers are excellent for cutting.

New Dawn (June 15), the everblooming sport of Dr. Van Fleet, picks up where its parent eases out, and after giving a generous burst of bloom on its eight- to ten-foot canes, continues to produce a few flowers all summer and well into the fall. It is probably the most reliable of all the Wichuraiana everbloomers.

That lovely Van Fleet rose, Mary Wallace, which was named for the sister of the present Secretary of Agriculture of the United States, and introduced by the American Rose Society, is another of the "must haves." Resulting from Dr. Van Fleet's effort to produce hardy dooryard roses, it can be grown as a strong bush or as a spreading climber. The canes rarely go over ten feet, but there are many of them, and they are quite liberal with three-inch fragrant flowers of a lovely shade of warm pink. We occasionally find odd flowers later in the season.

If Thelma (June 15) had been given the advertising many inferior varieties have had, it would be seen everywhere, as it is one of the daintiest and most pleasing of all the pink climbers. Our plant makes numerous twelve- to fifteen-foot canes with attractive Wichuraiana foliage, putting out fifteen-inch bloom-stems ending in fine clusters of two-inch

frilly flowers of clean shell-pink, really more distinct and desirable than this description would indicate. The bloom covers the plant from the ground up.

The world-favorite, American Pillar, and its double form, Ile de France, both bloomed for us June 15 and lasted for a long time. They are both strong growers, American Pillar being especially rampant, and blooming freely in large clusters on long laterals. Our plants suffered severely during the two coldest winters.

Although Dorothy Perkins (June 15) has been so widely planted that it is falling into disfavor, especially as it is subject to mildew in locations where the wind cannot get at it, Walsh's Lady Gay, blooming about the same time, is so like the better-known variety that few can tell them apart; but Lady Gay seems to be more resistant to mildew. They are so beautiful and bloom so freely that there is a place for one or the other in every garden. These are true Ramblers and can be restrained by limiting the number of canes, and I insist that three or four canes of one of these roses in bloom trained over a white doorway or against a white trellis is a picture to remember. Yet these varieties also serve well in the rough work of holding railroad embankments, as on the N. Y., N. H. & H. R. R.

Paradise and Evangeline are two late-blooming fragrant Walsh Ramblers that are important, as well for vigor, hardiness, beauty and individuality. Both are vigorous, Paradise producing several twelve-foot canes while Evangeline will make twenty feet in a season. Paradise's five broad petals are widely cut on the ends, and the edges roll; the color is white, with the outer third of each petal clear pink; the flowers are about one-and-one-half inches across and they are really "different." Evangeline's petals are also notched, but the flower is flat, and the color is a pale shell-pink. They are one-and-three-fourths inches across, and are in large clusters on eighteen- to twenty-four-inch stems. Its flowers are so fragrant that one plant will perfume an ordinary garden. How many nurserymen carry either of these delightful Ramblers? And why, oh why, have the unique Walsh Ramblers been dropped for less valuable European "novelties"?



DR. HUEY

THE RED CLIMBERS

There are red climbers in a wide range of shapes, sizes, and shades, desirable enough to suit every demand. For sheer brightness, and lots of it, there does not seem to be yet anything to touch Paul's Scarlet Climber (June 5). This grand rose is not as vigorous as the name would indicate (in reality it does best as a strong pillar), but it produces great quantities of two-and-three-fourth-inch scarlet-red flowers with twenty-five petals in clusters of three or four. They do not all open at once, so a plant is a blaze of color over a long period. It even has a slight fragrance, and in some places it recurs—and then may be called Blaze.

Equally desirable, just as brilliant, but of a softer, darker shade, is Royal Scarlet Hybrid (May 28), with two-and-one-fourth-inch, seventeen-petaled flowers of deep blood-red. The plant is a stronger grower than Paul's Scarlet, and not quite as free, but it does make a splendid display.

The always-reliable Bess Lovett (June 1) could readily replace Climbing American Beauty, as its three-inch, fairly double flowers are about the same shade as that famous

variety and they do not fade to the objectionable bluish gray of the better-known rose. The plant is also stronger, and produces more flowers. It fits with Zephirine Drouhin.

Almost totally unknown is Auguste Kordes (Climbing Lafayette), blooming June 1, which has three-inch, semi-double flowers very much like the well-known Polyantha Lafayette. In addition to covering a strong-growing plant from the base to the tips of its ten-foot canes with its pleasing bloom, it produces a few flowers later in the season. It is among the necessities.

Two of our finest red climbers were produced by the late Capt. George C. Thomas, Jr., who began his rose-work near Philadelphia. His Dr. Huey (June 3), our darkest climber, has bright maroon flowers of fifteen petals which will burn in the hot sun, but never turn blue. Ten to twelve feet seems to be its height, so that a pillar or fence suits it best.

The other one, Bloomfield Courage, is of the Rambler type, with numerous twelve-foot canes and myriads of little one-and-one-half-inch flowers of about the same color as Dr. Huey, except that each of the five petals has a white base. For some reason neither of these splendid roses has been widely distributed, though they are both unique and outstandingly good.

A fine everbloomer is the French pillar Souv. de Claudius Denoyel (June 1), with four-inch, double, fragrant, deep red flowers of splendid form and fine for cutting—if one can bear to take them off the plant. Carefully grown, it produces a few flowers throughout the season, and is very good for anyone insisting on continuous performance.

There are several reds among the Australians. Probably the best liked at Breeze Hill is Sunday Best (May 28) which Dr. McFarland claims is well named, because its bloom period lasts through three Sundays. Its three-and-one-half-inch single flowers are clear light red, with a white base to each of the five petals. It is fragrant. Our plants have eight-foot canes and the plants are practically hidden under the mass of bloom. It is unique.

Bushfire (June 15) has strong fifteen-foot canes, with medium clusters of one-inch, double cerise flowers with a

white base to the petals. The plants are covered from base to tip (June 15) with these spectacular flowers. It is a grand rose, though it is scentless.

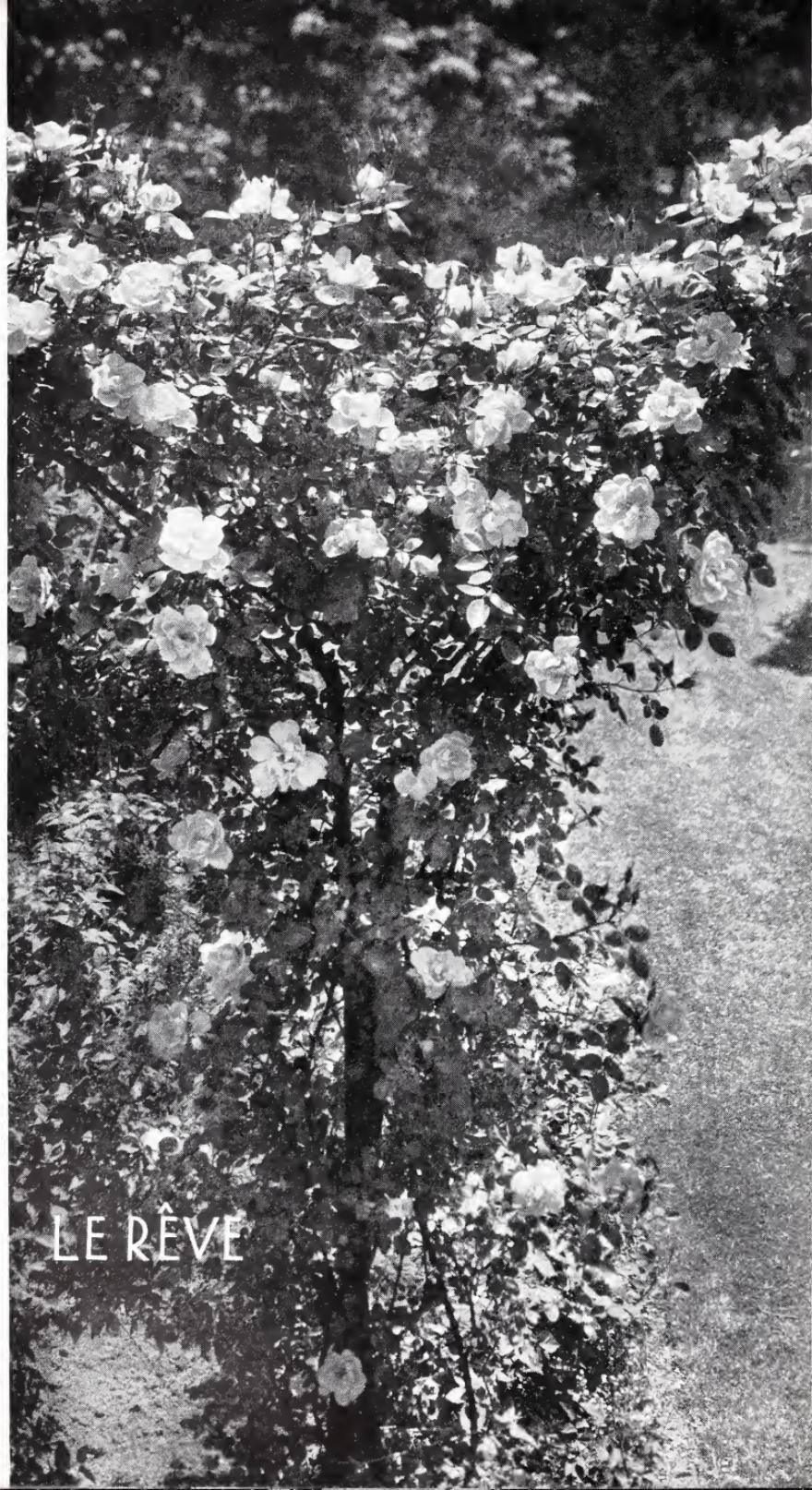
Other Australians that are different and well worth having include the beautiful Black Boy (June 1) with four-inch, semi-double, scarlet flowers with a blackish velvety pile on the face of its large petals, while rich fragrance adds to its desirability; and the better-known Miss Marion Manifold (June 3), whose three-and-one-half-inch, fairly double, crimson flowers are generously produced on plants which easily make ten-foot canes. We sorrow over our frozen plant of Countess of Stradbroke, a fragrant Australian with immense, very double, blackish red blooms.

There has been joy at Breeze Hill this June over the lovely fragrant flowers on a Climbing Gen. Jacqueminot sent us last year, and now well established.

On a high wire fence separating the workyard from the vegetable garden we have trained a plant of the Rugosa hybrid, Amélie Gravereaux. This fine plant covers about one hundred square feet so closely that one cannot see through it, and at bloom-time is a colorful picture carrying hundreds of its three-inch, richly perfumed, double crimson flowers on both sides of the fence. Like all red Rugosas, they do blue. Yet being so hardy, so vigorous and so floriferous, this is a desirable variety.

One can still buy Excelsa (June 16), which practically replaced the brighter Crimson Rambler and is a splendid rose when spread out so it can show its mass of one-and-one-half-inch double flowers of light red. It puts out dozens of new canes every year, and the result will be much better if only a few of these are allowed to grow.

So that they will not disappear entirely, we are trying to get together at Breeze Hill all of the splendid Ramblers originated by the late M. H. Walsh at Woods Hole, Mass. There were about three dozen of them, and we hope to complete our collection this fall. These free-blooming, healthy, hardy plants made rose history, and it is sorrowful that so few of them are now available in rose catalogues.—R. M. H.



LE RÊVE